

From: John Abbe
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/20/01 1:09am
Subject: Yet another citizen

Dear Department of Justice,

I am yet another citizen, writing to ask you to reconsider your slap on the wrist to Microsoft. As their recent actions in blocking non-Microsoft web browsers from msn.com shows, they continue to habitually, and without awareness or remorse, use inappropriate practices to their own advantage.

As their lack of response to the 1995 consent decree shows, future oversight is likely to be insufficient to convince them to change their ways. Without substantial enough legal action that directly addresses their monopoly power in the very near term (e.g. splitting the company up, required release of Internet Explorer and Windows source code), it seems very likely that they will continue to abuse that power.

Finally, as many others have pointed out, there are many loopholes in the language of the agreement that would make their continued abuse of their monopoly position legal (e.g., the current language lets them define what counts as the operating system).

I urge you to:

- 1) Find substantial fixes to their anti-competitiveness that are unarguably clear and easily-enforced in the near term, in addition to the competition-restoring requirements on future action in the current settlement (which i predict they will ignore, requiring future court action).
- 2) Go back and fix the loopholes in whatever remains of the language in the existing settlement.

Sincerely,
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All you /\ John Abbe "If you don't like the news,
need \ / CatHerder go out and make some of your own."
is... \ http://www.ourpla.net/cgi-bin/pikie.cgi --Wes Nisker